

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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PASS USDA

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: --
SUBJECT: PORG, WFC FOURTH SESSION OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC)

REF: ROME 11595

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH FODAG, KELLOWAY OF WFC SECRETARIAT INDICATED
FROM THEIR VIEWPOINT THE MEXICO DECLARATION CONTAINS FOUR
SIGNIFICANT POINTS WHICH ARE NEW:

A. CONCERNING PRODUCTION, COUNCIL HAS BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY
TO WORK WITH LDCS, TOGETHER WITH DCS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES,
TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF BASIC FOOD AND NUTRITION PLANS (REFTEL
PARA 23(C)).

B. ALSO CONCERNING PRODUCTION, DECLARATION PROPOSES SET OF MEETINGS
OF DCS, LDCS, AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND REPORT OF RESULTS
OF THESE DISCUSSIONS TO WFC SECRETARIAT BY FEBRUARY 1979 SO
SECRETARIAT CAN PUT TOGETHER PROPOSALS TO BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL
AT NEXT SESSION (REFTEL PARA 23(B)(6)).

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C. CONCERNING NUTRITION, SECRETARIAT FEELS DECLARATION
GIVES MORE SUPPORT TO COUNCIL'S INTEREST IN NUTRITION AND
PUTS RESPONSIBILITY ON ACC AND ITS SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NUTRITION TO ACCELERATE THEIR EFFORTS IN NUTRITIONAL AREA
AND TO PRESENT THE COUNCIL'S FIFTH SESSION A REPORT ON HOW
COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS, FROM ITS THIRD AND FOURTH

SESSIONS, ON NUTRITION MIGHT BE IMPLEMENTED (REFTEL PARA 23(P)).

D. CONCERNING TRADE, GATT AND UNCTAD ARE TO SUBMIT REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION AT COUNCIL'S FIFTH SESSION ON AN ANALYSIS OF IMPACT OF GATT/UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS IN THESE TWO BODIES SINCE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE ON TRADE PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (REFTEL PARA 23(MM)).

2. ONE POINT IN MEXICO DECLARATION NOT MENTIONED BY KELLOWAY WHICH COULD BE IMPORTANT IS THE REQUEST FOR QTE . . . DATA ON INTERNAL RESOURCES THAT ARE BEING DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, FOOD PRODUCTION AND REDUCTION OF FOOD LOSSES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES . . . END QTE (REFTEL PARA 23(E)). FAO IS ALREADY WORKING ON SUCH A STUDY WHICH WILL BE COVERED IN SEPARATE REPORT.

3. FAO PRESS USUMMARY RELEAS E OF JUNE 22, 1978 CONTAINS FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF MEXICAN PRESS ON WFC MEETING: BEGIN TEXT.

DISCOURAGING RESULTS OF WFC MEETING IN MEXICO. REPORTS AND COMMENTS IN MAIN MEXICO CITY DAILIES OF 15 JUNE AGREED IN THAT MEETING HAD BEEN FAILURE. TONE WAS PERHAPS SET BY FINAL QTE DECLARATION DE MEXICO END QTE ITSELF, WHICH STRESSED CONCERN FOR SLOW PROGRESS IN FINDING SOLUTIONS TO MANKIND'S FOOD PROBLEMS AND BY COUNCIL'S CHAIRMAN, ARTURO TANCO, WHO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIME WASTED IN RHETORIC PREVENTED DISCUSSION OF MORE BASIC AGREEMENTS. END TEXT.

COMMENT: ACCORDING TO WFC SECRETARIAT, TANCO DENIED MAKING ANY SUCH COMMENT THAT IS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN PARA ABOVE EITHER IN PUBLIC OR IN PRIVATE AND STATED IT WAS COMPLETE DISTORTION OF FACT.

4. WFC SECRETARIAT CONCERNED THAT FAO IS TRYING TO SET STAGE FOR "MILD" ECOSOC ENDORSEMENT OF MEXICO DECLARATION. SECRETARIAT REQUESTS US SUPPORT IN JULY ECOSOC MEETING FOR FULL ENDORSEMENT OF MEXICO DECLARATION. GARDNER

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